

Listing of Claims:

1. – 5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently amended) A validator of ~~[[the]]~~ access to a service by a rechargeable voucher, including means for:
 - ~~[[-]]~~ reading the voucher number,
 - ~~[[-]]~~ recharging the voucher, and
 - ~~[[-]]~~ storing a list of vouchers, the validation of which is authorized and/or forbidden.
7. (New) A system for managing rechargeable vouchers of access to a service, the system comprising:
 - a central station for executing service payment requests submitted by a user of a voucher independent of voucher charging or recharging operations; and
 - a plurality of service access validation stations comprising validators, in communication with the central station, wherein upon presentation of the voucher by the user, the validator performing charging or recharging operation on the voucher subject to an agreement from the central station and provides access to the service.
8. (New) The system of claim 7, wherein each voucher has an identification number and said central station stores the identification numbers of the vouchers for which a payment has been made and periodically transmits at least a portion of these numbers to at least some selected access validation stations.
9. (New) The system of claim 7, wherein upon payment, the voucher user provides an indication about the first validation station(s) to which he intends to go.
10. (New) The system of claim 7, wherein a number of vouchers are designated to be recharged periodically and at the end of each defined period, each voucher presented to a

validator is automatically recharged, the voucher validity being then checked at the level of the central station by comparison between the list of recharged vouchers and a list of vouchers for which the recharge has been paid for, a list being then made of the vouchers for which the recharge has been performed and not paid for, this last list being periodically transmitted to some or to all validators, to enable them to totally or partially inhibit the vouchers belonging to this last list.

11. (New) The system of claim 7, wherein for charging or recharging a voucher, the system automatically determines according to statistic criteria certain validation stations to which said voucher is likely to be presented.

12. (New) A method for managing rechargeable vouchers of access to a service, wherein a user of a voucher performs the steps of:

communicating with a central station to make payments without connection with the voucher; and

presenting the voucher to a validator of a service access validation station to gain access to the service wherein the validator performs a voucher charging or recharging operation subject to an agreement from the central station.